

News from Senator

BOB DOLE



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**DOLE: \$16.7 MILLION SLATED FOR FT. RILEY;
CONFERENCE REPORT APPROVED FOR \$10.6 MILLION
FT. RILEY WATER TREATMENT CENTER;
APPROVAL GAINED FOR OTHER FT. RILEY PRIORITIES.**

WASHINGTON -- A House-Senate Conference committee approved a \$10.6 million water treatment plant for Fort Riley in committee action last night. The funding is included in the FY 1990 Military Constuction appropriation bill. Kansas Senator Bob Dole welcomed the panel's OK saying that "our people at Fort Riley deserve water which meets quality standards. This new facility will give them good water and save government money in the long run."

Plans call for design completion in December with a contract award expected next March. Then work could begin on the 10 million gallons per day facility which also includes a water distribution line, two new wells, a water distribution and monitoring system and a control building.

The new plant will bring Fort Riley's Republican Valley water supply up to standards by removing dissolved iron and manganese and reducing hardness. Present iron and manganese levels exceed federal standards. The practical effect is that periodic water discoloration makes the water supply unsuitable for drinking, laundry and other uses.

"The soldiers and their families who give so much to our country deserve better, and they're going to get it," said Dole.

Army analysis shows Fort Riley's poor water quality now adds \$670,000 per year to the cost of maintaining and replacing government-owned equipment. High water hardness causes early failure of hot water heaters and other appliances, requires additional chemical treatments and drives up energy costs.

"This is a good move for Fort Riley and a smart decision for the taxpayer," Dole added.

Conferees also approved \$580,000 for standby emergency generators, \$1.5 million for a child development center, and \$4.02 million to provide the Army Reserve with a new warehouse facility.

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